

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	133276
<b>Inspection date</b>	02/04/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Catherine Greene
<b>Type of setting</b>	Childminder

## Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

## **Description of the childminding**

The childminder was registered in 1996. She lives in Islington in a converted flat on the ground floor and basement. The living room, play room and one bedroom are the areas used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed patio available for outside play. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for no more than five children under eight years; of these, not more than three may be in the early years age group. She currently has five children on roll. The childminder attends the local parent/toddler groups and walks to and from local schools.

## **Overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The service provided by the childminder meets children's individual needs. An effective partnership with parents ensures children settle and feel secure and welcomed into her family. Children are well supervised and secure and procedures help to support this aim. Their learning and development is generally well supported within an inclusive environment. The childminder has created a welcoming and safe child-centred environment. She has good knowledge about adapting the play space, activities and resources to ensure children of all ages are able to participate fully. The childminder has started to think about ways to evaluate the service she offers.

## **What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?**

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- continue to improve the safety of the areas used by children by conducting a written risk assessment and log of action taken for concerns, paying particular attention to the temperature of radiators and the washing line
- ensure new children's awareness of emergency evacuation is promoted
- use information gained by observing children to plan activities which stretch their learning and development.

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

The childminder provides a service which meets the needs of local parents and their children. She has attended training in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and is beginning to implement changes and work on improvements to her service. Secure relationships with the children's parents contribute to ensuring children's individual needs are met and clear records about the children including registers, accident and medication consent forms underpin this aim. The childminder shows commitment to ongoing improvements and is eager to provide a good quality service for the children and their parents.

Suitable measures are in place to promote children's good health and the childminder has an up to date first aid certificate. She works alongside parents in supporting children's dietary needs and shares all policies and procedures to ensure communication is open. Children are kept safe for the most part when with the childminder but some areas have not been fully risk assessed such as a trailing washing line in the patio and radiators at the premises are sometimes very hot and pose a risk to children playing nearby. Fire evacuation procedures are in place but the childminder has not practised these with the children for some time. Despite this, she talks to the children about keeping safe and teaches them good road safety awareness whilst on outings.

The childminder is committed to her own personal development, she works closely with the local authority gaining guidance and support from the childminding network. Appropriate documentation is available for the administration of medicines and parents have provided permission for emergency medical treatment. The childminder's understanding of and records for recording safeguarding concerns, are in place and the childminder would share information with appropriate agencies should the need arise. She will attend training in this area to secure her understanding of recent changes.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

Children settle well with the childminder and play in a well organised environment. They enjoy the activities and resources provided and the childminder gets to know them well as she interacts and communicates with the children each day. The childminder uses her knowledge of children gathered by talking to parents and observing them in their play to help them progress in each area of learning. Children settle well with the childminder and play in a relaxed way. They are treated as individuals and the childminder provides generally well for their interests and abilities in the EYFS. All children are included and the childminder talks to children about respecting other people's ways of life and about differences in people's background. Their learning and development are generally well supported and they demonstrate increasing independence and confidence when moving around the flat and in asking for what they need.

Children enjoy a range of activities and are secure in the childminder's daily routine which includes trips to the library, park and weekly playgroup. Children enjoy painting and drawing and have their creations displayed in their portfolios, giving them pride in their work. They choose from resources available, build towers with bricks and enjoy playing with pretend foods and dressing up in their role play. Older children enjoy playing schools and use educational activity books as part of their role play. The childminder promotes children's good behaviour with positive affirmations, giving time, attention and interacting closely with children. She is clear about what behaviour she expects from each child and has strategies in place to guide them throughout the day.

Children have regular access to the patio and visit local parks to ensure they benefit from regular fresh air. The childminder takes children on trips to the city farm and zoo throughout the year.

## Annex A: record of inspection judgements

### The key inspection judgements and what they mean

*Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality*

*Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong*

*Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound*

*Grade 4 is Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough*

### Overall effectiveness

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	3

### Quality and standards

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	2
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

## **Annex B: the Childcare Register**

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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## **Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted**

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

### **Detail of the complaint/s**

There have been no complaints since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.